



15c

BATMAN

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE



AUG.

NO. 214



STORY:
FRANK
ROBBINS

BATMAN

ART:
IRV NOVICK
& JOE GIELLA

BATMAN
UNFAIR TO
BATGIRL!

BATGIRL'S
JOINED THE WEDDING
PARADE TOO! THE
ONE GIRL IN
GOTHAM I THOUGHT
I COULD TRUST
NOT TO FALL
IN LOVE
WITH ME!

A NEW KIND
OF REVELT
HAS HIT
GOTHAM CITY—
AND REVEALED IT TO
ITS FOUNDATIONS!
A GOTHAM CITY PROBLEM,
ALLERGY CASES ARE
REMOVING THE MOST
ELIGIBLE MALE FROM
CIRCULATION! AND FEAR
OF "BOMBERS/BOMBERS"
BROKEN DOWN ALL
FEMALE BARBERS. OR
IS SOMETHING MORE
SINISTER BEHIND
THIS SCENE? HOW TO
"GET BATMAN"?
HOW CAN EVEN THE
DYNAMIC CRIME-
FIGHTER COPE WITH
THIS MYSTERIOUS,
AMORPHOUS
THREAT?

BATMAN'S
MARRIAGE
TRAP!

5-126

BATMAN, No. 711, Aug. 1968, Publisher's monthlies, with the exception of April and October by N.A. Devine, PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS, INC., 3rd & Dwyer Ave., Astoria, O., 44101, National Editorial Office, 810 THIRD AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022, John Schwenk, Editor, Captain America Editorial Offices, BRADLEY CLASS, NEW YORK, N.Y., under the name of Marvel, Inc., 1230 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10020, address: Richard A. Fink & Co., 41 E. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10017, Copyright © National Periodical Publications, Inc., 1968. All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. This edition, characters and incidents mentioned in this magazine are hereby licensed. No other edition, being in time, yet intended, is to be printed.

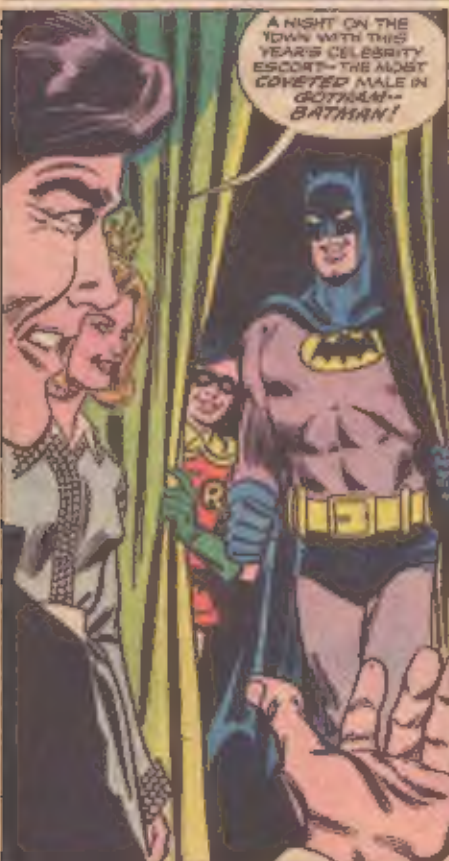
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THE GOTHAM EMPIRE BALLROOM—SCENE OF THE FAMOUS "QUEEN OF GOTHAM BEAUTY AWARDS" CONTINUED...



...AND NOW—THE CROWNED WINNER, MISS NICOLE KARR! WHO IN ADDITION TO THE INVALUABLE PRIZES ATTENDANT TO THIS MOST COVETED ROLE...

GETS THE OPPORTUNITY EVERY GIRL DREAMS OF—



A NIGHT ON THE TOWN WITH THIS YEAR'S CELEBRITY ESCORT—THE MOST COVETED MALE IN GOTHAM—BATMAN!



IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY? HEAR SPEAK!—ANOTHER FAMED GOTHAM MALE REACTS...

...AND THE NIGHT I'D DREAMED OF!

WHATCHA MEAN STRUCK?... YOU AIN'T NO DOLL!



AND YOU AIN'T NO BRASS TRIGGER! THEY'RE GIVIN' BAG & TV COVERAGE AT EVERY NIGHT! BRUT HE TAKES THE DOLL TO, DIS?

SO WE'LL KNOW WHERE HE IS—EVERY MINUTE! UNLIKE OTHER NIGHTS WHEN HE'S GOTTEN IN OUR HAIR!

SO THAT'LL GIVE ME A BIG THRILL WATCH HIM DO THE TOWN?

JERK! CAN THAT CRIME-FIGHTER BE IN TWO PLACES AT THE SAME TIME, HUH?

HEY-YEAH! BUT WHAT ABOUT HIS JUNIOR PARTNER?

AND HOW DO YOU PLAN TO SPEND THIS LALA EVENING, ROBIN? TAKE OVER THE NIGHT-PATROL-SOLO?

NO, SIR! LIKE THE REST OF BATMAN'S FANS—I'M SITTING HOME GLUED TO THE TV AND VICARIOUSLY SHARING HIS ENJOYMENTS!

HAY! THAT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION, TRIGGER?

THERE THEY GO, FOLKS! COULD THIS BE THE GAL WHO WILL CAPTURE THE GREAT BAT-CHILD'S HEART?

EEEE! BATMAN—AINT HE THE MOST?

SARCEE! JUST HOPE HE STAYS SINGLE TILL I'M OLD ENOUGH!

MAYBE SOME WON'T GET AHH— BUT WE'LL CAPTURE GOTHAM CITY, AT LEAST FOR ONE NIGHT!

BATMAN'S NIGHT ONE— WILL BE OUR NIGHT ON!

BATMAN'S FIRST DESTINATION— THE GLAMOROUS, ENJOYING STARLIGHT ROOF!

OPERATION MONITOR STARTS NOW— AND ALL SYSTEMS ARE GO!

GET THE BOYS MOVING, TRIGGER!

OPERATION MONITOR SWINGS INTO ACTION



THE BIG B IS STILL
ROOFING IT AT THE
STARLIGHT
TRIGGER!



SO WE SEE, BOSS—
AND I HEAR! AND
WE'RE READY!
OVER TO OUR STAR-
LIGHT DIAMOND
ROOM! HERE ON THE
OTHER SIDE OF
TOWN.



AND NOW—LEAVING FOR
THE "ELECTRIC
DISCOTHEQUE"...



WE'RE HITTING THE BANKERS!
ALREADY GET TOGETHER
NEXT, BOSS!

CHECK! THAT'LL
PUT YOU OVER A
MILE AWAY FROM
BIG B!

STARLIGHT
ROOM
STARLIGHT
TRIGGER
DISCOTHEQUE



WE'RE CLEANIN' THE
"BANK" NOW, BOSS—
THEY'RE MAKIN' A NIGHT-
DEPOSIT WITH US!

WHAT'S
NEXT?



TAKE THE TAIL AT THE STARLIGHT
ROOM— THEY TOOK IN PLENTY
TONIGHT WITH BIG B AS THEIR
STAR ATTRACTION!

AND SOIT GUS- BATMAN'S BARKER-KESLER TEAM GOTTHAM INTO A GRAB BAG FOR THE W-INGING
BATTLES OF OPERATION MONITOR...



AND IN THE P.M., BARKER-KESLER
ARRIVING AT THE SCENE: BATTLE







ANY PUCKERING-UP
GAMES ARE OVER,
BABY—I'M OUT
AFTER BIGGER
GAME (AND
YOU'RE OUR
BAIT!)

BUT THIS TRAP
HAS TO BE SUPER-
FLICK—REAL
CLASS APPROACH!
BATMAN'S NO
FOOL—NOW
END THIS—



THE NEXT DAY IN
A FINE MADISON
AVENUE AD
AGENCY—

I DON'T HAVE
AN APPOINTMENT,
BUT—I DO HAVE
A MILLION
DOLLARS
TO SPEND ON
ADVERTISING!

OH—I DIDN'T
REALIZE! I'LL
GET YOU OUR
TOP MAN—MR.
BULLFINCH!



A THOUSAND PAXIONS
FOR MY NEPT RECEPTIONIST! I UNDER-
STAND YOU'RE
INTERESTED IN—
HARUMPH—A
LITTLE PROMOTION?

NOT I, MR.
BULLFINCH—
BUT THE
ORGANIZATION
I REPRESENT—
W.E.B.!



YES, SEN. LEMEX—W.E.B.—
WOMEN TO END BATCHE-
LODDOM! WE ARE A NON-
PROFIT... ALTRUISTIC... GROUP
OF UNMARRIED WOMEN...

AND WISH TO REMOVE THE
ONE BARRIER TO HAPPY
MARRIAGE IN GOTHAM!
THE SYMBOL OF ALL
SINGLE MALE
SLIBLES...



—BATMAN! THE
MOST GLASS-BLE
BATCHELOR
IN TOWN!

AN
INTERESTING
CHALLENGE
YES, STARR,
BUT CONFIDENTIALLY—
ARE YOU
AFTER HIM?



PERISH THE
THOUGHT! I
DO ALL
RIGHT ON
MY OWN!

I PREFER
MY SPONSOR-
SHIP TO REMAIN
ANONYMOUS—
IN FACT I
INSIST IT
DOES!

WIKT MOONING IN THE WINDY HOLLANDS...



"DIDN'T BRUCE...
HAE YOU SEEN
THIS?"



"IT MUST BE SOME
SORT OF SHASTLY
JONE, MASTER BRUCE."

"AS THE ELEPHANT
SAID WHEN THE
CROCODILE SHIPPED
OFF HIS TRUNK,
"YE-WY FUNNY!"



"AND AT ANOTHER REGARDIST
TABLE IN POLICE COMMAND-
ROOMER GORDON'S HOME..."

"AS IF WE DON'T
HAVE ENOUGH
PROTEST GROUPS,
BASS, DEAR,
AND WE'RE
UNDER-STAFFED
AS IT IS..."

"VERY SUSPICIOUS,
DAD! WHO'S
BEHIND
THIS?"

"I THINK MAYBE
BATGIRL
BETTER TAKE
A LOOK-SEE!
'CONTACT
YOUR LOCAL
WEB, CAMPYER
END'"



"A SHORT TIME LATER..."

"HEY, GIRLS-
LOOK!
BATGIRL!"

"WITH HER
AS A RECRUIT-
HOW CAN WE
LOSE?"



"THE GREEN-
SHIRT AGENTS
TELL IT
THREATENS
TO RISE AND
FLOOD!
AND ON THE
HOT-LINE..."

"IT'S A-- SURE!
YOU'VE GOT TO
SEE IT-- TO
BE AVE IT
BATMAN!"

"IF YOU
DON'T MAKE AN
APPEARANCE,
THERE'S NO
ACCOUNTING
FOR THE
(SHRDER)
CONSEQUENCES!"



**BUILD IT YOURSELF - REVELL'S
MODEL OF THE MONTH FOR
JUNE, THE F4F-4 WILDCAT.**



In the early days of World War II, the single-engine Wildcat was a bristling fighter, outnumbered by the more powerful Zivkovic. The Japanese nicknamed it "Foxy" (F4F-4). Commander James H. Doolittle, who flew the first F4F-4, wrote the book "The F4F-4 Wildcat" which was published in 1945. This book gave many Wildcat's secrets.

With a 34" wing span, folding wings and outboard cockpit, the F4F-4 is a true Wildcat in every sense. It's a joy to build and looks great in a display case. For \$2.99, wherever toys or hobbies are sold.

See it 175¢ for more
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Revell Inc.
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Chicago, Ill. 60631





NEVER HANDLED
AND HINGE HE
THIS BEFORE
BATMAN
WHAT IS
WE CAN
RECOGNISE THAT A
GENERAL TOWN JUNG
WHEN A RETREAT
LIEST FOR
ANOTHER
DAY



SPY FOR GIRLS
HE'S THE KING
AWAY

AROUND THE
BLOCK - YOU'LL
CUT HIM OFF
AT MEN AND
THEY

W
BATMAN



THE BALL WAS BORN
IN THE HANDS OF
SINGERS TO KEEP IT

BATMAN - LOOK
HEY IT'S GOING TO
ROAD-BLOCK IS

AND IF WE CAN'T TURN
AT THE INTERSECTION
WE'RE BOTTLE NECKED

SUCKER FLY -
FAB - AN
IMPACT KICK
2.0

OPERATION BAIT
4.000.000

KIST PURSE -
TO SMOKE OUT
THE CROCODILE

THINK SOMEONE HAS THE BATHHOUSE - I WASH MY
FACE AND THE SLUGGISH 2.0

WE'VE BEEN
REPEATED BY
ANOTHER
FEMALE

BETTER HAVE
OUR OWN KIST
WE'VE NEVER SET
ANOTHER HANDLE
LIKE THIS

WHOMEVER YOU ARE MISS -
I'VE AN ANGEL IN
DISGUISE NOW I'VE EVER
CREAM UP A BIL IN SCREEN -
SO QUICKLY 2



NOL FLATTER YOURSELF BATMAN!
I WOULDN'T BURN OUT MY ENGINE
TO SAVE ANY MAN!

JUST CONSIDER
YOURSELF LUCKY
I NEED A
PISTON-RING
JOB-- AND
YOU NEED A
SAVING-
SCREEN!



THIS IS THE
BATMAN IS THE
ONE WHO
IS ONLY A
GOTHAM WHOLE
THE
BRUSH-OFF!
ALICE

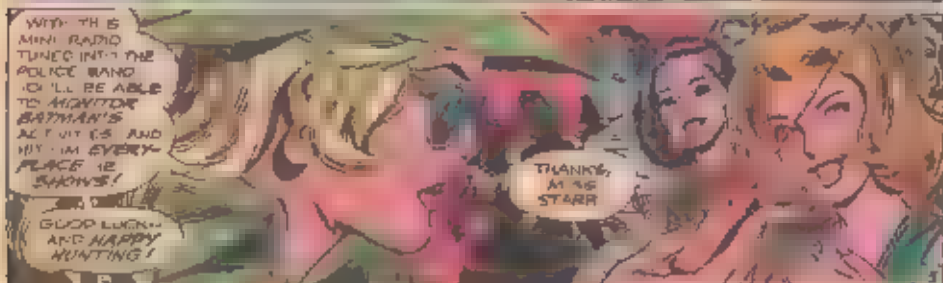
AND IF I CAN
ALICE... I CAN
TAME THE
WILL BE
LIVING NO ME

THAT NIGHT



WE'VE GOT TO KEEP UP THE
PRESSURE 24/7 DAY AND NIGHT,
TILL BATMAN WEAKENS! SO
HERE'S THE TACTIC

WE'RE GOING
UP TO MOBILE
STRIKE SQUADS



WITH THE
MINI RADIO
TUNED INTO THE
POLICE BAND
YOU'LL BE ABLE
TO MONITOR
BATMAN'S
ACTIVITY'S AND
HIT HIM EVERY
PLACE HE
SHOWS!

GOOD LUCK
AND HAPPY
HUNTING!

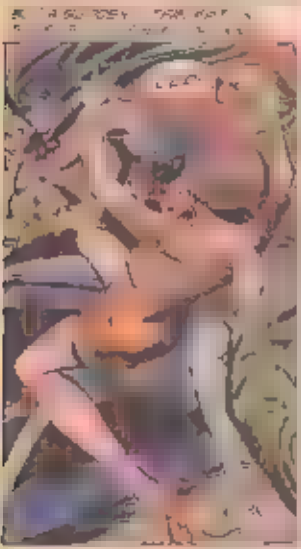
THANKS,
MISS
STARR





HANDS OFF
THAT PAGE ADDED
CLIFF
INTERESTING
A LITTLE
AND OTHER

BATMAN - THE BUNCH
WAS WITH SAMMY
AND WERE TIGHT
IN THE



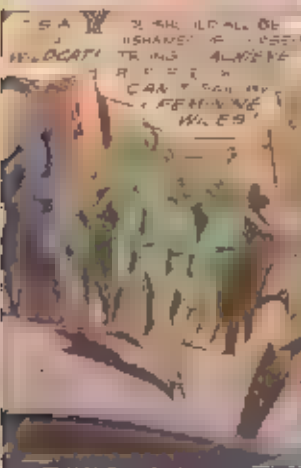
LEADER



SET THE
BAPTIST

CLUTCHING
HIS
FE
EYOR

NEARBY
CLIFF



SAY THE IDEAL BE
USHANEY OF PRESERVE
WELDCATI TRIMING ALIEN
REVEN
CAN'T SAY ANY
REVENUE
WILES



FOR AT THE MOMENT
BAPTIST WITH THE SUE

IT IS THE
LESS BATMAN!
AND THE BAPTIST
CLIFF WILD
HILKS FHEW!

SERIOUSLY MISS
HOW DID YOU KNOW
WE WERE IN
THE G C STAND
WELL

G REY I DIDNT KNOW!
AT DONT THINK I G OUT
OF MY WAY TO RESUE
AN ESCORTAL CA. SIKER
MAY I KE YOU
BATAUNT

LE APPRE
ALENS AP EX LETING
AR RE ARED
BAG ARE

AS TO WHY? JUST SAY
THAT I A CITIZEN--
LENGA
PEL A AD
IF FIGHTING
WAS

REG. AT F. G. AN. 4. A. M. IF PL
CR
BATAUNT
R S
EX BY

200 PAGE PULL-OUT NO. 1

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NEW YORK CITY
NEW YORK CITY

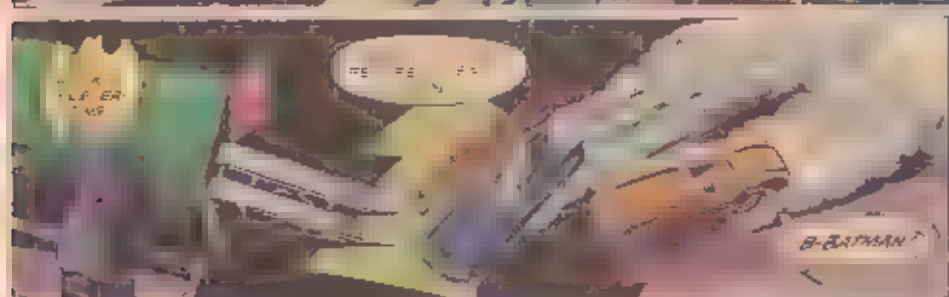
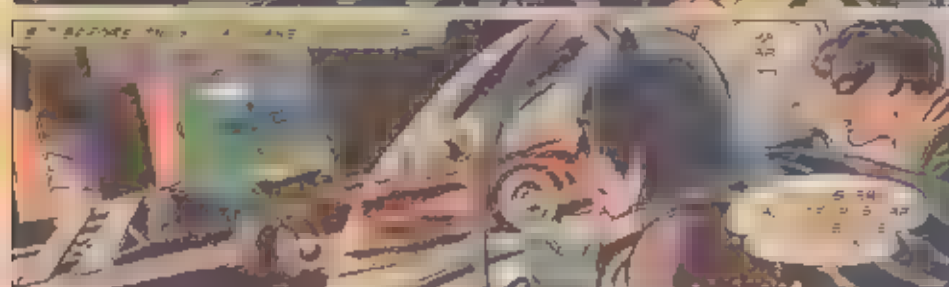
Dear DC Fans:

First, we would like to thank you for having bought this "National Product" and then thank you for these "National Product" stories worth the extra charge per page. That is, we are very proud!

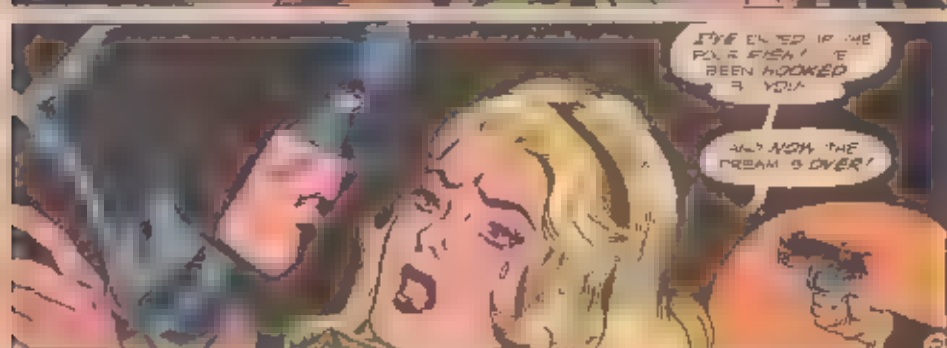
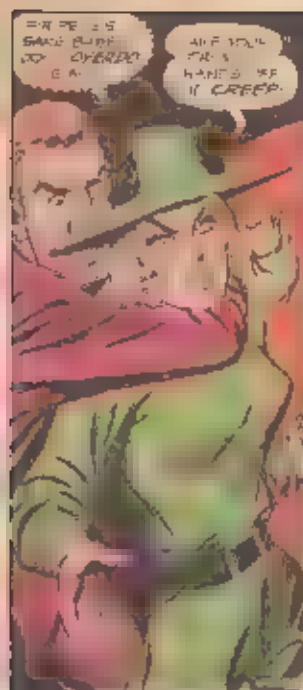
However, we think we owe you an explanation as to why we are sorry to have to raise the price of our past years, the cost of living of our magazines is steadily rising. We have to pay more for ink, paper and other things. No, they don't pay more for the things you buy. But, with the cost of living, now they are in a lot of trouble. Not only do they have to pay more for food, clothing and other things, but they also have to pay more for everything. Everything costs more now than it did a few years ago. Your parents have to pay more for food, clothing and other things.

We are confident that you understand the necessity for this adjustment, and we remain your friends. For our part, we promise to double our efforts to maintain the same high standards of publishing that have produced the world-famous line of DC Comics.

Sincerely yours,
The Editors











AND NOW, INSTEAD
OF A KING, DEAR
BATMAN—YOU CAN
GIVE ME A
BRACELET!
I'M SORRY...

YES, CLEO—AND NOW
I WISH IT HADN'T
TURNED OUT
THIS WAY...

BUT—THERE MAY BE
A WAY YOU CAN MAKE
IT LESS PAINFUL—
FOR BOTH OF US!



AND SO, A SHORT TIME LATER, AT STRACK'S HEADQUARTERS...

BOSS—LOOK! WHAT'S
NEW CLEO?

SHE'S CRAZY OR
SOMETHING? **BRINGING
BATMAN'S
BODY HERE?**

I TOLD TRIGGER
TO CLIMB HIM—
AND HER! WHAT
HAPPENED...?

NO MATTER WHAT
STRACK—
WE GOTTA
DUMP 'EM
NOW!



DON'T KNOW WHAT
KIND OF GAG THIS
IS, CLEO—BUT
IT'S YOUR
LAST ONE!

LOST YOUR SENSE
OF HUMOR, STRACK?
BABY? THIS GAG
ALWAYS
SLAYS 'EM!

WHA...? YOU AIN'T
GOT CLEO'S VOICE—

AND YOU AIN'T GOT
ANOTHER "PATSY" TO
PUSH AROUND PUNK!

KPOW



NEW "MATCHBOX" KING-SIZE MODELS OF THE MONTH.

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Design Charger
Dodge, retail \$1.50



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Scammell Heavy Wreck Truck
Dodge, retail \$1.75

Two King Size models that prove good things come in big packages, too.

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Write for free catalogues:

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Dear Editor:

I grant the "new" *Catwoman* with a mixture of feelings. When I first saw *Batman* #210 on the magazine rack, I was angry that my favorite villainess was not featured on the cover. "How could they do a thing like that?" I asked myself. Even before seeing the comic, I had known *Catwoman* was in the issue, because the previous issue (#209) had given us a preview. So, after purchasing a copy, and skimming through the story, I slowly began to realize that *Catwoman* had undergone another change, and that the figure so prominently displayed on the cover besides *Batman* was indeed the *Princess of Plunder*, in a new costume and hairdo.

At first I was tempted to tear the comic to shreds and forget about it—then, deciding I couldn't judge a mag by its cover, I retried and read it. "The Case of the Purr-Lained Pearl" was an excellent story! It contained action and adventure, all neatly woven into a suspense-filled plot. In fact, the only thing I didn't like was the title! The pearl played such a minor part, and was never actually purr-lained, so I think a more apt title would have been, "Batman Fights the Legion of Feline Furies!"

Getting back to the subject of the "new" *Catwoman*—after finishing the story, I went back and began to form a new opinion of her costume and hairdo. Although I'll miss the old *Catwoman*, the new *Princess of Plunder* is really great!

—SCOTT GILSON, Sterling, Colo.

Catwoman's unheralded change heralded a blast of comments, ranging from sweet music to sour notes. So more music, please!—Editor

Dear Editor:

Batman #210 was, in a nutshell, an unfortunate attempt at a really good issue. All the familiar ingredients were there, but...well, to begin with, the cover was a grabber. I hope Neal Adams' covers become a habit on *Batman* and *Detective*, because they sure in heck are more tempting when one sees them on the stands.

My all-time favorite villainous villainess, *Catwoman*, has returned. Unfortunately again I use the word, she has undergone her unsophistic changes, and this time it's for the worse. Her long hair has been clipped, her impressive costume has been cut down to scanty purringness, and even her face has filled out a little. It's disheartening to see a good criminal go bad right before your eyes.

As for Frank Robbins, *Batman's* resident scripter...I love his plots but his dialogue needs work. The intricate, involved storylines are real *Batman* material, but the narrative and dialogue are laden with melodramatic rhetoric. This time, the story ended all too fast; the short explicative paragraph at the very end seemed obvious and even faintly apologetic. Another thing: Robbins' use of alliteration is bugging me. We have *Big Barbara*, *Floral Flo* and *Sultry Sarah* to contend with, as well as the *Nizam of Nepal*, the *Pecola Pearl*, and a *Catwoman* speech reading, "Stork-est, stinkiest, saher-toothed terrors..." And, oh yes, keep the gags subtle—Mayor John V.L. of Gotham City? Too, too much!

—STEVE BERRY, Aliso, Mich.

(A note of interest we neglected to log on to the pre-

vious editorial comment—Frank Robbins, a highly acclaimed syndicate artist, designed the new *Catwoman*, along with her Cat-doll.—Editor)

Dear Editor:

I'm always glad to see *Catwoman* return to fight *Batman* alike, as everybody knows by now, I am the staunchest supporter of super-villains around. But still, my attitude toward CW has changed over the years. In the latest *Batman-Catwoman* story you have dropped several of the best aspects of the CW stories while continuing the old, worn-out ones. For example, how long has it been since the old "nice lives" routine was used? True, it has been used in the past, but CW's apparent death scenes tended to make her one of an enigma, more of a shadowy figure of the night. All the *Batman* regular villains need to be mysterious; they need not and usually should not deal with super-weapons; the *Batmans* of the old days were more terrifying than they are today. The *Joker* evidently stayed out not as today's almost lovable antagonist but as a murderer whose warped sense of humor served to make him more horrific. Obviously, you can't make *Joker* a murderer again, but you should be able to make him into more of the totally evil criminal of old.

Also, you've dropped *Catwoman's* love-hate relationship with *Batman*, which, although poorly handled in the past, had great potential. And unwittingly, you dropped CW's mastery of criminal strategy. Let's face it—all she did this issue was try to pull off one robbery. No series of robberies, no kidnappings, no blackmailings, no attempt to kill *Batman*.

Catwoman's cat-cunning, cat-independence (of men, which creates her contradictory attitudes toward *Batman*) and her nine lives, then, should be played up. Add a few cat-gimmicks like her cat-o-nine tails and you're all set. But instead you have gone overboard on cat-details. Instead of those WHOOPIE green tights she wore last time out she now has a costume with a nice long juvenile cat's tail on it. She purrs and spits and tears at yarn. And she's still making those lousy cat-puns as motives for her crimes. *Batman* doesn't flap his arms and bang from the ceiling so why should CW act so ridiculously cat-like? The day of the old *Catwoman* is over. And one more thing—if I see CW fooling everybody into thinking she's reformed one more time, BU...

—PETER SANDERSON, JR., Milton, Mass.

Dear Editor:

Purr-fect—which is the way to describe "The Case of the Purr-lained Pearl!" I've waited for the *Feline Fury's* return—but pine? And that new costume—cat-chyl! As for the Cat-doll—it makes the old *Kitty Cat* look like a *Ten Lily*! Please keep the new *Catwoman* as presented in *Batman* #210—and keep bringing her back more often!

—JOHN VAN BRUGGEN, JR., Oakham, Ont., Can.

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